

Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R005600

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT City of Yambol

BLACE 25X1A

ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO.

DATE DISTR. 24 AUG 50

NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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1. The city of Yambol lies in a flat productive valley in eastern Bulgaria. The nearest large cities are Nova Zagora, Sliven, and Burgas. There is a large forest northeast of the town. The old sections of town were built without plan, but the new streets are straight and lighted by electricity. The important buildings are the Justice Department, Government building, Peoples' Bank, and a few provisions warehouses near the station. These buildings are on the average three stories high and are built of concrete. Most large buildings are painted yellow. The most important avenue, called Tirgovska, begins at the vegetable market and ends at the barracks of 29 Infantry Regiment. The population figure is 35,000. Minorities comprise Turks, Armenians, and Jews. The health condition of the people is very bad, tuberculosis being quite common. There is a rather large Government hospital here.
2. The Yambol railroad station, a two-story building approximately 110 meters long, is in the northern section of the city. The freight and passenger stations are in the same building, which has only recently been constructed. The station lies on the Burgas - Sofia line and passenger trains from these two cities meet at Yambol three times a day from opposite directions. Two freight trains pass through each day from Sofia in the direction of Burgas. Three times a day a passenger train leaves Yambol for Elhovo. Local transportation is mostly of the horse-drawn carriage variety. There are four bus lines running to the neighboring towns of Sliven and Stefan Karadzhovo. The fare is 2 leva per kilometer and soldiers receive a 30 percent reduction.
3. The district and town councils are located in buildings in the center of town. The district Militia headquarters is located at Number 67 Tirgovska Avenue. There are more than a hundred Militia headed by the Communist Nikolai Hecivianov. Militia patrols in pairs circulate all over the town and patrolling is intensified at night. These patrols demand proof of identity from everyone after 11:00 p.m. The largest factory in Yambol is named Tundzha, and produces cotton goods. It is a long two-story building which is located on the Tundzha River east of the city, near the city bank. It employs 850 laborers in two shifts on 320 work counters that each produce 80 meters of cloth every 24 hours.
4. The local food commissariat fixes the prices of such items as meat and vegetables. The price of bread, butter, cheese and other food stuffs are

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25X1A

- 2 -

established by the central government. Ration cards are issued by the food commissariat. Until 1947 the black market was highly developed. At present the Government has opened so-called free markets which have replaced the black markets. Some prices in the free stores are as follows:

Ready-made shirts .....	6,000 leva
Shoes .....	10,000 leva
1 meter of cloth .....	3,000 to 4,000 leva
1 kilo of cheese .....	800 leva
Meat per kilo .....	300 leva
1 kilo 600 grams of bread .....	180 leva.

5. The local organization of the Communist Party is located in the Eski Trakya Hotel on Tirgovska Avenue in Yambol. The Party occupies all twelve rooms on the first floor. One weekly paper the Tundzha, is published by the Party, under the editorship of Yani Yanev. Many people have radios and those who do not can listen to loud speakers which are placed at various intervals in the town. Although there are no official orders to the contrary, those believed listening to foreign broadcasts are subjected to penalties.
6. It is impossible to secure living accomodation without the permission of the Housing Authority. New arrivals in the city find it difficult to obtain living quarters unless they come on special duty, or to work in factories and in Government establishments. The hotels here are named Evropa, Bilgara, Amerika, and Nova Amerika. The rates are approximately 100 to 150 leva per day.
7. There are separate lyceums for boys and girls and a graduate trade school. For the last two years the schools have been accepting only students belonging to the Communist Party or to the Young People's Union. Those who entered school more than two years ago and have made no application for membership in the Party are dismissed under one pretext or another.
8. The two moving picture theaters show Russian and Czechoslovak films. The city park is located in the northern section, along the Yambol-Sliven highway. Two soccer football fields are located there; one called Partizan and the other called Georgi Draja. Next to the city park is a stadium for motorcycle races.
9. Several military units are located at Yambol. The 29 Infantry Regiment is commanded by Captain Hazirov. The 4 Cavalry Regiment is commanded by Colonel Markov. The 3 Anti-aircraft Regiment, commanded by Colonel Saravov, is composed of seven batteries. The first battery is equipped with 13 German 88mm guns which are drawn by six-wheeled trucks of Man manufacture. The second battery is supplied with twenty-eight 76.5mm Skoda-made guns which are drawn by the same make of truck. The third battery has about fifty 22mm horse-drawn guns of Raymetal manufacture. In November 1945 thirty-six new anti-tank guns were shipped to 3 Regiment from the Soviet Union. They are of 35mm caliber and are drawn by trucks which carry 25 to 30 men. The other batteries are auxiliary units, and include a Sound and Flash (sic) Battery equipped with instruments for listening, observing, and aiming. The equipment is of Skoda make. The searchlight Battery has 15 searchlights, each 110 centimeters in diameter.
10. An airfield, called Aero Montorsko Letiste, is located in the northern sections of the city. Only airplanes requiring repair work are brought here and then are returned to their units. No airplanes are stationed here. The airplane

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- 3 -

hangar is approximately 120 meters long and 22 meters wide and includes workshops and a headquarters building; it employs approximately 120 mechanics. At present the field is guarded by from 30 to 40 military personnel. The commander is Lt. Colonel Mandev. There are military barracks around the field which can accomodate 500 soldiers, but they are vacant. Immediately north of the airfield are three or four gas storage tanks, but they are believed to be empty.

11. The class of 1927 was scheduled to be demobilized in September, 1949. The class of 1928 still is under arms and the class of 1929 will shortly be mobilized. No reserves have been called to active service. All classes 1901 to 1926 inclusive have been examined by a military commission and were placed in the reserves. No military preparations have been noticed since that time.

25X1A \* [REDACTED] Comment: This report is from a preliminary interrogation of  
25X1X a Bulgarian [REDACTED] who fled to Turkey in [REDACTED]  
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